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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<b>(51) International Patent Classification<sup>6</sup> :</b> <b>C07H 21/00, G01N 33/50, C12Q 1/68</b>		<b>A3</b>	<b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 95/15971</b> <b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> <b>15 June 1995 (15.06.95)</b>
<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> <b>PCT/US94/13893</b>			<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AM, AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MN, MW, NL, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SI, SK, TJ, TT, UA, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG), ARIPO patent (KE, MW, SD, SZ).
<b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> <b>5 December 1994 (05.12.94)</b>			
<b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 08/166,036 10 December 1993 (10.12.93) US			
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**(54) Title:** NUCLEIC ACID MEDIATED ELECTRON TRANSFER

**(57) Abstract**

The present invention provides for the selective covalent modification of nucleic acids with redox active moieties such as transition metal complexes. Electron donor and electron acceptor moieties are covalently bound to the ribose-phosphate backbone of a nucleic acid at predetermined positions. The resulting complexes represent a series of new derivatives that are bimolecular templates capable of transferring electrons over very large distances at extremely fast rates. These complexes possess unique structural features which enable the use of an entirely new class of bioconductors and photoactive probes.

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International Application No  
PCT/US 94/13893

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 6 C07H21/00 G01N33/50 C12Q1/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 6 C07H G01N C12Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO,A,93 10267 (IGEN INC) 27 May 1993 see the whole document ---	19,20
X	DATABASE WPI Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; AN 88-320199 & JP,A,63 238 166 (MITSUBISHI DENKI KK) , 4 October 1988 see abstract ---	1
X, Y	SCIENCE, vol. 262, 1993 pages 1025-9, C. J. MURPHY ET AL. 'Long-Range Photoinduced Electron Transfer Through a DNA Helix' see the whole document ---	5-8, 19, 20 -/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

5 July 1995

Date of mailing of the international search report

- 7.07.95

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 94/13893

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X, Y	PHOTOCHEM. CONVERS. STORAGE SOL. ENERGY, PROC. INT CONF., 8TH 1990, pages 121-39, N. TURRO ET AL. 'Photoelectron Transfer Between Molecules Adsorbed in Restricted Spaces' see page 133 - page 135 -----	5-8, 19, 20

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 94/13893

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO-A-9310267	27-05-93	AU-B-	658962	04-05-95
		AU-A-	3141293	15-06-93
		EP-A-	0567635	03-11-93
		JP-T-	6507316	25-08-94
		ZA-A-	9208839	13-05-93